

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES, PLEASE NOTE:

For the 2025 election, these school board seats are open:

- Bethel: 2 seats open, each for a 3-year term
- Greenwood: 1 seat open for a 3-year term
1 seat open for a 2-year term
- Newry: 1 seat open for a 3-year term
- Woodstock: 1 seat open for a 3-year term

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Deadline for Delivering Nomination Papers to Registrars of Voters in Towns:
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 by 2:00 PM
- Deadline for Delivering Certified Nomination Papers to MSAD 44 Central Office:
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 by 4:00 PM

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 44 AT-LARGE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

Getting on the Ballot: The Petition Process

- Your town of residence must correspond to the residency requirement of the Maine School Administrative District No. 44 (“MSAD 44”) School Board seat for which you seek nomination. (For example, if you are running for the School Board at-large seat with a Bethel residency requirement, you must be a resident of the Town of Bethel.)
- Nomination papers are available at the MSAD 44 Central Office (One Parkway, Suite 204, Bethel, Maine), as well as at the town offices of the member municipalities of MSAD 44 corresponding to the residency requirements for the vacant Director seats.
- You must pick up the nomination papers in person.
- You must have the Registrar of Voters in the municipality where you reside certify your voting residence. This should be done before signatures are collected.
- You may begin circulating petitions after your voting residence is certified by the Registrar of Voters. You must obtain at least 25 signatures but no more than 50 signatures of registered voters in MSAD 44. You may collect signatures in any or all of the following MSAD 44 member municipalities: The Towns of Bethel, Greenwood, Newry, and Woodstock. You must use a separate, town-specific nomination petition form for each municipality where you collect signatures.
- Each petition must be verified by its circulator, and the circulator’s oath must be completed on each petition.
- You must submit your signed petitions to the Registrar of Voters of every municipality where signatures were collected by the established deadline. The Registrar of Voters in each municipality

will then review the signed petition to ensure that all requirements of law are met. Petitions to the Registrars of Voters are due by the deadlines established for each election.

- The Registrar of Voters will notify you when the petition is certified. You must collect your certified petitions from the Registrar of Voters in each municipality where signatures were collected.
- You must deliver to MSAD 44 Central Office (One Parkway, Suite 204, Bethel, Maine) the complete packet of nomination papers, including the cover page and the certified nomination petitions by the established deadline.
- You will be notified by MSAD 44 of the acceptance and filing of the nomination papers once the filing deadline and challenge period have passed.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Each at-large School Board Director position has a residency requirement. To qualify for nomination, you must be a resident of the town corresponding to that requirement.
- Nomination papers must be typed or printed in ink, except where an original signature is required.
- A separate petition form must be used for each municipality in which signatures are submitted.
- The circulator of a petition does not have to be a Maine resident or a Maine registered voter. The circulator must personally witness every signature that is made on the petition and must take an oath to that effect.
- A voter may sign for more than one candidate running for the same office. However, a voter may sign each candidate's petition only once.
- The petition may be signed only by voters who reside in the municipalities comprising the geographic boundary of MSAD 44—i.e., the Towns of Bethel, Greenwood, Newry, and Woodstock.
- The voter must sign their name personally, except that a voter who is unable to sign the petition because of a physical disability and who is registered to vote may authorize another Maine-registered voter to sign the candidate petition or use the voter's signature stamp on the voter's behalf. (Note that the individual assisting the voter may not be the candidate, the circulator, the voter's employer or an agent of that employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union.) Any voter using an individual assisting the voter must have an alternative registration signature statement on file with the Registrar of Voters. The individual assisting the voter must sign the voter's name, must sign the individual's own name below the voter's name, and must attest that the individual is signing on the voter's behalf. The assistant must complete the rest of the information for the voter, as well as for the assistant.
- The printed name of the voter, the date signed, the street address, and the municipality may be completed either by the voter or the circulator. Ditto marks are permitted only for street address and municipality.
- To ensure that the Registrar of Voters will be able to certify a voter's signature, the voter should sign the petition in the same manner as the voter is registered to vote. Immaterial irregularities (such as misspellings, inclusion or omission of initials, substitution of initials or nicknames for given name) will not invalidate a signature as long as the Registrar can determine that the signer is the voter on the municipality's voter list.